

## THE WASHINGTON HERALD

Published Every Morning in the Year by  
THE WASHINGTON HERALD COMPANY.

Publication Office:  
724 FIFTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST.

Entered as second-class matter, October 5, 1906, at  
the post-office at Washington, D. C., under act of  
Congress of March 3, 1879.

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Telephone Main 3300. (Private Branch Exchange.)

Subscription Rates by Carrier or Mail.  
Daily and Sunday: 50 cents per month.  
Daily and Sunday: \$4.00 per year.  
Daily, without Sunday: 40 cents per month.  
Daily, without Sunday: \$3.00 per year.  
Sunday, without daily: 20 cents per month.  
Sunday, without daily: \$2.00 per year.

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should be sent with the manuscript for  
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All communications intended for this  
newspaper, whether for the daily or the  
Sunday issue, should be addressed to  
THE WASHINGTON HERALD.  
New York Representative, J. C. WILDERDING  
SPECIAL AGENT, Brunswick Building.  
Chicago Representative, BARNARD & BRAN-  
HAM, Bore Building.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1909.

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## Improvements on Naval Ships.

While the ships of the Atlantic fleet are  
engaged in target practice under condi-  
tions which are closely akin to the cir-  
cumstances attending actual war, the  
ships are also undergoing other impor-  
tant tests. When the vessels were re-  
cently at the navy yards for the semi-  
annual overhauling and receiving the  
alterations which were planned for them  
in the scheme of improving naval con-  
struction and equipment, upon them  
were installed a number of devices which  
were uncommon enough to be regarded  
as revolutionizing the appearance of those  
ships. Among other things, they were  
equipped with a new skeleton fire-control  
mast, which had been previously sub-  
jected to trial to ascertain the ability of  
the structure to resist attack. Another  
improvement was the removal of what  
is known as the topmanger, including emer-  
gency cabins, from many of the boats,  
and the obstructions which impeded move-  
ments above deck and added to the tar-  
get for an enemy's guns, as well as in-  
creased the weight to be carried by a vessel.

There is some question whether in  
adopting these changes the Navy Depart-  
ment did wisely. It is a case of ascertain-  
ing under practical conditions whether the  
theories of the experts are sustained. Op-  
portunity, therefore, has been given to  
those on board the vessels of the Atlantic fleet  
to report upon the two important improve-  
ments, along with other less conspicuous  
but quite as valuable in contributing to  
naval efficiency. If it shall be shown that  
the alterations were justified, and that  
the new skeleton towers are of proper  
height and sufficiently stable to answer  
every purpose as towers of observation  
in connection with fire control, and too  
much of the topmanger has not been re-  
moved, the benefits will be extended to  
ships generally.

This is the sensible proceeding, and  
marks a businesslike policy which has  
some consideration for prudent expenditure  
of the appropriations made for the naval service.

## Cupid to the Rescue.

Various parties with nothing better to  
do have been industriously engaged dur-  
ing late years abolishing the horse. His  
doom was read when the bicycle appeared.  
It was read a little later along when the  
automobile came into general use. Now  
the alrship has sent his equine majesty  
to limbo again.

But the horse will never go. Cupid  
needs the horse in his business, and as  
Cupid's business is one industry that has  
withstood the ravages of thousands of  
years and the shocks of falling empires  
untold, we opine that so long as Cupid  
stands by the horse, the horse we shall  
have with us still. A sweet young thing  
of the summer girl persuasion has fixed  
the horse's everlasting status by con-  
trasting him with the automobile as the  
two affect youthful philosophy and things  
romantic.

Says she:  
"No young man can make less properly while  
operating an automobile. In the first place, his  
hands are kept too busy with the steering gear,  
the levers, and things. Jogging along behind old Dob-  
bin, with just you in the back—that is quite  
another story. More hearts have been won under  
the latter conditions than in all the automobiles  
ever dreamed of."

We think we see the drift of the argu-  
ment, and we admit its apparent sound-  
ness. Without the horse, buggy rides  
would be impossible for purposes of court-  
ship. The automobile, while exhilarating,  
is not, we might say, sentimentally in-  
toxicating. With Dobbin heading the  
processions, things take on a different  
hue entirely—a more rosy hue, indeed.  
In emergencies the reins may be wrapped  
about the whip socket or thrown around  
the dashboard. The automobile, on the  
contrary, requires such constant personal  
attention that romantic situations and  
acute crises must be sacrificed to per-  
sonal safety, no matter what the im-  
mediate demands of the occasion otherwise.  
The horse is safe. He will not be aban-  
doned now or soon. He plays an impor-  
tant part in our scheme of things here  
below. His place cannot be supplied by  
anything else in certain definite cir-  
cumstances. We feel easy about the horse's  
future at last.

We note that a certain Mr. Booser, of  
Mobile, Ala., expresses himself in an in-  
terview as believing "the South is on the  
threshold of great prosperity." Per-

haps; but will Mr. Booser come into  
court and explain to the Alabama legisla-  
ture where he got that name?

## Swearing for Health.

"Thou shalt not swear" is an injunction  
against good health, according to the  
dictum of a distinguished English  
physician. The Continent learned long  
ago from tourists that the British tub  
and the British oath travel together. The  
one is traditionally heralded as the hall-  
mark of civilization. The other is now  
proclaimed as a promoter and preserver  
of sound minds in sound bodies. This  
scientific advocate of round oaths pro-  
nounces them of psychological and, there-  
fore, of physical benefit. The emotions  
demand a safety valve. The Englishman  
may be phlegmatic; but his stolidity may  
be upset by the failure of a Parisian  
waiter to understand his insular French.  
In such emergency, service may be quick-  
ened and digestion promoted by an ex-  
pletive that needs no interpreter. The  
animals and birds furnish natural preced-  
ents. All of them have their cries of  
anger. When a British subject is an-  
noyed, he suffers at once an ebullition  
of superfluous mental and physical en-  
ergy. His comfort and health, which in  
his own estimation are paramount, de-  
mand relief by some form of expression.  
The irate Englishman may get rid of  
this injurious emotion by running, kick-  
ing, smashing a carafe, or swearing.  
Otherwise, suppressed choler may cause  
blood-poisoning and may strain the brain.  
British tourists possibly owe a vote  
of thanks to this medical man. They  
now may cite scientific authority for  
swearing their way around the world.  
The amusing quality of this prescription  
is its grave assumption of superior im-  
munity. Perhaps that is based upon the  
established servility of the English lackey.  
But it is conceivable that the advice of  
this learned doctor may get some of his  
wandering patients into trouble. There  
are possible objects of their wrath in  
other lands who would maintain that  
self-respect is not inconsistent with serv-  
ice, and who would increase the sum  
total of British profanity by an answer-  
ing smash of the foreign fist.

## Mr. Thaw's Mother.

When Mr. Harry Thaw was recently  
refused a release from the New York  
Asylum for the Criminal Insane, he  
remarked, "with deep feeling," "I am  
assured by a sentimental writer, 'I am  
so sorry for mother.'"  
While it is by no means discreditable  
to Mr. Thaw that he should, at last,  
have been moved to feel "so sorry" for  
his old mother, it is to be regretted, both  
for her sake and for his, that he was  
not impelled to that mental attitude some  
few years earlier. Much of the bitterness  
of unrelenting regret might have been  
saved to many people, and months and  
even years of deep humiliation avoided  
thereby.

Better than all of this, however, would  
it have been for both Harry Thaw and  
the elder Mrs. Thaw had the young man  
been considerate enough in earlier years  
to have been "glad for mother." That  
was the great thing he neglected and  
omitted to do. She lavished wealth upon  
him; she did all she knew how to make  
his existence bright and happy. She  
wanted him to enjoy life to be glad.  
Had he accepted her contributions to his  
pleasure—misguided as they may have  
been—with righteous appreciation, and  
employed them in a manly and honest  
way, he might have been very glad, in-  
deed; and glad for his old mother's sake.  
"Sorry for mother!" After dragging her  
down to the depths of despair, after  
leading her along pathways of woe un-  
utterable and anguish indescribable, to  
be "sorry for mother!" isn't much. Prob-  
ably it is the best a shriveling and sordid  
nature such as Harry Thaw's has to  
give; and if that be the case, let him  
have such credit as may be due him for  
it. As he sits in his isolation at Matta-  
wan and reviews his wretched past—if he  
does that—it may not, of course, remedy  
a deplorable situation in any marked  
degree if now and then he feels "sorry  
for mother." At least, however, it will  
do him no harm.

Mr. John D. Archbold, returning from  
a tour of Ireland, says he was "agree-  
ably surprised to find that there was  
much less poverty there than he had  
been led to expect." Looking for poverty  
from the viewpoint of a 60-horse-  
power automobile is very much like look-  
ing for a needle in a haystack, however.

"Gov. Harmon declines to run for  
President in 1912," says the Macon News.  
This will—if Mr. Harmon sticks to it—  
relieve Mr. Bryan of the necessity of  
pointing out the fatal weaknesses in the  
Harmon candidacy.

An Ohio physician says: "Dr. Long  
knows more about wild animals than Mr.  
Roosevelt ever did or ever will know."  
Is the Buckeye State already seeking to  
discount the triumphant home-coming of  
T. R.?

Although Mr. George Bernard Shaw  
said recently, "America can worry along  
without me," he is not going to permit  
America to enjoy the pleasure. Mr.  
Shaw is quite as contrary as he is in-  
genious.

"The fairly-well-to-do family of 2009  
will probably use gold plate every day,"  
says the Mexican Herald. Evidently, our  
contemporary is not looking for down-  
ward tariff revision soon.

The great majority of American citizens  
are apt to love Dr. Wiley even more  
than ever for the enemies he has made.

Here's hoping Mr. Harriman makes a  
complete recovery from that operation he  
did not undergo.

"Don't judge a tariff bill by the first  
few weeks of its operation," says the  
Deseret News. Oh, no; just grin and  
bear it, like good little patriotic consum-  
ers.

Mr. McHarg said—More Roosevelt  
luck?

We call Capt. Richmond Pearson Hob-  
son's attention to the fact that it is  
cherry trees and not lemon trees his  
majesty of Japan is causing to be sent  
to this country as a gift.

"Can't the authorities impose a fine on  
any author who dares to affront the pub-  
lic with another 'Prisoner of Zenda' story?"  
inquires the Boston Herald. Another  
"Prisoner of Zenda" story would  
not be an affront; on the contrary, it

would be a decidedly welcome addition to  
current literature. But the rank imita-  
tions—out upon them!

"Rochester's new city directory shows  
that we have no less than 14 real Kings  
in this town," says the Rochester Herald.  
And not a few Jacks, in all probability.

The phonograph seems to be about the  
only machine of relatively late invention  
that is not out for breaking records these  
days.

The suggestion that Mr. Roosevelt  
would make a fine figure of a mayor for  
New York will never attract any con-  
siderable attention until Mr. Roosevelt  
makes it.

A Newark court has decided that a  
baby that cries at night is not a nus-  
sance. However, the court did not define  
exactly what else it is not.

We fear the Republicans in the House  
of Representatives will never become  
really virtuous until the Democrats get  
control.

The Prince of Wales will hunt big game  
in Africa next year. By that time the  
hunting will be about as tame as shoot-  
ing English sparrows, we suspect.

King Alfonso's crop of side-whiskers  
was not precisely of the bumper vari-  
ety, anyway, it is whispered.

Gen. Pew denies that he was defeated  
in the battle before Boston. For antici-  
pating the umpire's decision and squab-  
bling before he knew what he was talk-  
ing about, Gen. Pew should be ordered  
to the bench.

Mr. Roosevelt will regret that the old  
Empress Dowager is not alive when he  
visits China. There was a ruler after  
his own strenuous heart.

Already last year's models in airships  
are looked upon as rather funny vic-  
elices.

We rejoice to note that the editorials  
in the esteemed Atlanta Constitution now-  
adays are held sufficiently within bounds  
to allow Col. Frank L. Stanton's column  
at least a hold on the ragged edge of  
the page.

## ANENT PUBLIC MEN.

**Mr. Bryan's Foresight.**  
From the Detroit News.  
Bryan sees a number of winning issues midway  
between election years.

**Mr. Tillman's Talking Cure.**  
From the Birmingham Age-Herald.  
Senator Tillman is seeking rest and pocket cure  
on the Chesapeake coast.

**Gov. Hughes and Nominations.**  
From the New York Sun.  
Gov. Hughes himself has not always believed  
in mandatory direct nominations.

**Editor White's Domestic Preference.**  
From the Chicago Evening Post.  
William Allen White likes Kansas better than  
Paris. Prefers Emporia to an emporium, as it  
were.

**Ex-Gov. Glenn Shocked.**  
From the Chicago Record-Herald.  
Ex-Gov. Glenn, of North Carolina, says he found  
shocking immorality in Chicago. People who go  
out hunting for shocks can usually find them.

**Mr. Harriman's Hard Work.**  
From the Cleveland Leader.  
Edward H. Harriman cannot fairly be said to  
have broken down young. He has worked nearly  
half a century and worked hard.

**Mr. Taft and Conservation.**  
From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.  
If Mr. Taft should succeed in ending this cruel  
war, it is wholly likely that a sane policy of con-  
servation will be instituted and executed in a  
sane and legal manner.

**Dr. Wiley Supported.**  
From the New York Journal of Commerce.  
It is to be hoped that Dr. Wiley will be so  
strongly supported that the efforts of the cohorts  
of food manufacturers whose attempts to evade  
the law he has thwarted to get rid of him will  
be defeated.

**Mr. Roosevelt, Mighty Hunter.**  
From the New York Herald.  
Prof. Shipley, of the British Association for  
the Advancement of Science, declares animal  
species are disappearing from the globe at a greater  
rate than ever. Mr. Roosevelt has been reading of  
the drama of a great American hunter now in Africa.

**Trouble in the Royal Palace.**  
From the Shakespeare Club of New Orleans.  
Used to give amateur theatrical per-  
formances that were distinguished for the  
local prominence of the actors. Once a social  
celebrity with a gorgeous costume, as one of the  
lords in waiting, had only four words to  
say: "The queen has swooned." As he  
stepped forward, his friends applauded  
vociferously. Bowing his thanks, he  
faced the king and said, in a very  
high-pitched voice, "The swoon has  
quenched."

"There was a roar of laughter; but he  
waited patiently, and made another  
attempt:  
"The swoon has coned."  
Again the walls trembled and the  
stage manager said, in a voice which  
could be heard all over the house,  
"Come off, you doggoned fool!"  
But the amateur refused to surrender, and  
in a rasping falsetto, as he was assisted off  
the stage, he screamed: "The con has swooned."

**What Is a "Colonel?"**  
From the Houston Post.  
The Dallas News prints a military dic-  
tionary which defines "colonel" as an  
"officer who has command of a regiment."  
Our impression is that the correct  
definition is "a citizen of Texas or  
Kentucky."

**The Dependable Way.**  
From the Indianapolis News.  
As to learning law by the correspond-  
ence method—um-m-m, well, it may be  
feasible enough, but a good deal safer  
way is to burn the letters and the safest  
not to write them at all.

**MUSCA DOMESTICA.**  
Baby bug, keep's a fly.  
We wish you, baby, you and I;  
Let her fall in baby's mouth,  
Bringing germs from north and south.  
In the world of things a-wing  
There is not a nastier thing  
Than this pesky little fly—  
So we'll watch him, you and I.

See him crawl up the wall,  
And he'll never, never fall;  
Save that poisoned he may drop  
In the soup or on the chop.  
Let us coax the cunning brute  
To the tempting Tangletout,  
Or tempt his thirty feet  
To the poison-paper bowl.

I believe with six such legs  
You or I could walk on eggs;  
But he'd rather crawl on meat  
With his microscopic feet.  
Eggs would hardly do as well—  
He could not get through the shell;  
Better far to spread disease,  
Vegetables, meat, or cheese.

There he goes on his nose,  
Picking, tickling his nose.  
Heaven knows what he has been  
And what filth he's wallowed in.  
What the nasty little wretch  
He's the deuce and all to keep.  
Ah! he's settled on the wall,  
The thimble-sized shall fall.  
Baby says he that  
We will wait him, you and I.

—B. L. Z., in Chicago Tribune.

## A LITTLE NONSENSE.

**A POPULAR PHRASE.**  
Look busy as you rush along.  
That is the proper dope.  
Don't amble calmly with the throng;  
Adopt a jerky lode.  
Ignore the signs of rising wrath,  
Consider life a fray,  
And elude people from your path  
In energetic way.

Beat Father Time into a pulp,  
He hasn't any friends.  
Consume your luncheon at a gulp,  
And talk of dividends.  
Act always like a man who has  
A lot of vim and go,  
And people will describe you as  
A human dynamo.

**Don't Forget the Waiter.**  
"Well, we leave for home to-day."  
"I see the waiter has decorated our  
table with rosemary."  
"Rosemary, eh? Ah, yes; that's for  
remembrance."

**In Boston.**  
"Say, you four-eyed kid," exclaimed the  
alley urchin.  
"Well?"  
"My dad is going to learn me how to  
box, and then I'll put it all over you."

"After your paternal parent has learned  
you how to box," responded little Waldo  
Rockaway, he might profitably expend  
some effort in teaching you how to talk."

**Fall Exodus.**  
We're happy in our little hut;  
It fills the bill.  
We've no excuse for moving, but  
I s'pose we will.

**The Wherefore.**  
"Why do you persist in giving sensa-  
tional musical comedy instead of Shake-  
speare?"  
"I'll answer that question by asking  
another," said the theatrical manager.  
"Which play do you pay your money  
for, the one that you feel you ought to  
see, or the one that you oughtn't to?"

**Of Course.**  
"We were all ready to make our dash  
for the pole."  
"Yes, yes."  
"When suddenly my fountain pen  
sprung a leak. Of course, that ended  
the expedition for another year."

**Her Thrust.**  
"What plea can I offer for adoring  
her?"  
"No special plea is required," suggest-  
ed a rival belle. "The silly season is still  
open."

**ADVANCES HELPFUL IDEAS.**  
**Georgia Woman Strikes a Note of  
Warning to Wizard Burbank.**  
From the Cleveland Leader.  
No Marathonic tactics will do for the  
man who wishes to keep ahead these  
days. He cannot plod along determined-  
ly. He must sprint all the while.

There's Burbank, for instance. One  
would think his ideas would keep him far  
in the lead, but here's a Georgian woman  
not only making him stand at the post,  
so far as ideas for phenomenal improve-  
ments are considered, but also pointing  
out the way to others to pass her in the  
race.

The fair Georgian is an esthetic philan-  
thropist. She is working in the interests  
of the true, the good, and the beautiful,  
especially the last. Her soul has been  
wrung, both personally and with the  
vicarious weights of others' sorrows  
when beautiful flower gardens and de-  
licious green lawns have been destroyed  
by hungry chickens.

So she put her mind to work. The  
present breed of chickens, she logically  
argued, will scratch. The remedy lies in  
changing the type. So she has set about  
it. Her purpose is to breed a chicken  
with only one leg. It will need at least  
that to stand upon. The voice of nature,  
crying through centuries, will sound in  
this one-planned chicken and bid it  
scratch. A few attempts will prove the  
uselessness of statististic desire, and the  
chicken will adapt itself to its con-  
ditions. Chickens of this sort will lay  
as well; they will furnish themselves  
plumply and tenderly to the stewing-  
pot, the frying-pan. And the laws will  
be saved.

The gallantuous improvement which  
this woman will work, if her scheme  
proves as practical as it is alluring,  
should send other humanitarians on night  
scurries. Those who sleep beneath a light  
will decorate with laurels and gold with  
gold the scientific investigator who shall  
produce a yowl-less cat and a type of dog  
that will not bark the moon. The Georgia  
woman, having pre-empted the chicken  
field, should be urged to produce a  
rooster that will not greet the dawn,  
any time from 12 o'clock to 4; and, in  
time, a sparrow that will not chatter may  
result.

Domestic objects, too, should furnish  
grand opportunities. Milk bottles that  
will not clink in the early morning hours;  
furnaces that can be shaken without  
awakening the lightest sleepers, are on  
the waiting list for improvement, and  
any thing that can be pointed the way  
to other things which will be of use  
Burbanked into usefulness without a  
shadow of a drawback. More power to  
the brains that shall undertake such  
tasks; more enthusiasm and undying per-  
sistence!

**A Rare Economy.**  
From the Atkinson Globe.  
"I am a very economical woman," said  
Mrs. Lysander John Appleton recently,  
when a friend suggested that \$35 was  
a good deal for her to pay for a hat,  
and I will prove it to you." She led  
her visitor into a room that had been  
bolted on the back of the house and  
shown her a half of a tin of shoe polish  
filled the line by nine foot room, the  
exclusion of anything else. "I began  
saving the strings off packages  
when I was first married," said Mrs.  
Lysander John, "and now look what my  
savings has amounted to! Two years ago  
we were compelled to build this room  
on purpose for my twine ball, as there  
was no room for it in the house, and  
within another year we will have to  
double the size of the room. If there  
is another woman in the town half as  
economical, I would like to know her  
name." And there? Come, sisters,  
show up your twine balls!

**Metric System to Date.**  
From the Wall Street Journal.  
"Now, children," commanded the au-  
stere instructor in advanced arithmetic,  
"you will recite in unison the table of  
values."  
"Ten twines make a trust."  
"Ten trusts make a combine."  
"Ten combines make a merger."  
"Ten mergers make a magnate."  
"One magnate makes the money."

**When She Should Marry.**  
From the Louisville Courier-Journal.  
The question of when a girl should  
marry is up for discussion as a result of  
the silliness of the season. A girl should  
marry when the net income of the as-  
pirant for the honor of footing her bills  
is equal to the sum she is accustomed to  
spending, plus the amount she would  
have to spend to make her acquaintances  
green with envy.

**Hammack Loses Ham.**  
From the Culbert (Ga.) Liberal Enterprise.  
Mr. D. W. Hammack had the misfor-  
tune last Saturday of losing twenty-one  
head of hogs. They were lying under  
a tree, when lightning struck the tree and  
killed them. Mr. Hammack's friends sym-  
patize with him in his misfortune.

## PEOPLE AND THINGS

**Feminine Trade Schools.**  
A trade school for women is to be es-  
tablished by the government in Austria.  
It will cover all kinds of feminine handi-  
crafts, such as needlework and embroidery  
of all kinds, dressmaking, millinery,  
making artificial flowers and feathers, de-  
signing work in gold, silver, and pearl,  
embroidery, laundry work, clothes clean-  
ing, and many other branches of women's  
work. The project includes a general  
technical school, ateliers, special courses  
of instruction, and evening classes. The  
technical school will be open to girls of  
fourteen and upward who have passed  
through the ordinary elementary schools.  
It will be divided into special depart-  
ments for each kind of occupation, and  
will aim at giving a good foundation  
knowledge of each kind of work, while  
at the same time general education will  
be continued, combined with instruction  
in household management. Pupils who  
wish to have a more highly specialized  
training in their future work can enter  
special ateliers, where advanced teach-  
ing will be given by experts. For girls  
and women already working, special  
courses and evening classes will be ar-  
ranged.

**Deer in Massachusetts.**  
Can it be that the protection of game  
has been carried to an extreme in New  
England? It appears that the gentle deer  
is making trouble in many parts of Mas-  
sachusetts. In Worcester County since  
April 1, the appraisers' fees for estimat-  
ing the damage caused by deer have  
amounted to about \$100. The damages  
are paid by the State, but the counties  
have to pay the appraisers. The deer  
have multiplied to such an extent, the  
Worcester Telegram says, "that they are  
overrunning farms in every county in the  
State, except those in the extreme south-  
east and the least counties, and one  
claim that reached the Worcester court-  
house a few weeks ago was from an  
Oxford man who asked for \$175, as deer  
played havoc with his cabbage plants and  
peach trees."

**Needed Paris Improvements.**  
The municipal authorities of Paris are  
awake to the need of improvements. The  
silence of Baron Haussmann has been  
carried out only in part. Many old houses  
were pulled down and replaced by others  
with every modern comfort and entire  
rows of new streets have arisen, but  
now it is perceived that quite a number  
of desirable "improvements" remain to be  
perfected. The municipal council, hav-  
ing gone thoroughly into the project,  
proposes a loan of upward of \$180,000,000,  
which will suffice for a very practical and  
elaborate programme. Houses will again  
be swept away to make room for hand-  
some buildings. All the edifices in the  
city are to be thoroughly overhauled, the  
Carnavalet Museum and the St. Fargeau  
Library are to be completed. New gar-  
dens are to be opened, and what Parisi-  
ans love to see, vistas and fine archi-  
tectural effects, where there have been  
defective buildings.

**The "General Delivery."**  
The recent convention of postmasters  
at Toledo recommended the restriction of  
the general delivery to "legitimate uses."  
It would be hard to define that term.  
These officials cannot be permitted to in-  
terfere with the sanctity of the mail.  
But police authorities in the larger cities  
complain of the use of the general deliv-  
ery by criminals; observers of social and  
moral problems agree that the general  
delivery service is an agency of immorali-  
ty; post-office administrators declare it  
a nuisance. Its proper field is the distribu-  
tion of mail to the transient and float-  
ing population, and the difficulty is to  
provide for that service and to avoid its  
abuse.

**Influence in the Caribbean.**  
The extended influence of the United  
States in the Caribbean may be regarded  
as a necessary condition preliminary to  
the future opening of the Isthmian Canal.  
A survey of the region is interesting.  
North of the Canal Zone are Central  
American republics, where indebtedness  
is largely controlled by financiers in the  
United States. Moreover, these republics  
are all under the influence of the treaty  
providing for arbitration, whose source  
and inspiration were in Washington. The  
moral dominance of this country in the  
Greater Antilles is strengthened by its  
relations with Cuba and Santo Domingo,  
its possession of Porto Rico, and on her  
West Indian, European influence plays a  
light part. American influence and in-  
vestments grow there inevitably stronger.  
But in Central America, the United  
States has to consider the diplomatic re-  
lations of Mexico.

**Fulton's Monopoly.**  
It is not generally known that when  
Fulton began steam navigation on the  
Hudson he enjoyed a monopoly. Fulton  
and his principal backer, Chancellor Liv-  
ingston, had obtained an enactment from  
the legislature giving them exclusive  
right to the navigation of all boats by  
steam in the waters of the State for a  
term of twenty years, the easy condition  
being that they should produce a boat of  
not less than twenty tons that should  
move with or against the current of the  
river at a rate of not less than four  
miles an hour. As the Clermont, on her  
first voyage, covered nearly five miles  
an hour, compliance with this condition  
was not difficult. These exclusive rights  
were attacked in the courts in 1820. The  
suit was carried to the United States Su-  
preme Court, where Chief Justice Mar-  
shall wrote the decision that the mono-  
poly was unconstitutional.

**Punk Poetry.**  
From the Honey Rock (Tex.) Signal.  
The greater the number of dogs in town  
the greater the chance to bite us, the  
greater the number of surgeons around  
the more we have appendicitis; the greater  
the number of knockers the harder  
the times, the greater the number of  
squealers the scarier the times. If you  
want bad times to "do the git" and every-  
body to heal, here is the plan—adopt it,  
please—don't bite, don't cut, don't knock,  
don't squeal.

## VISIONS OF FLYING DIRT.

**But Roosevelt Won't Boss the Canal  
Zone for Sufficient Reasons.**  
From the New York Globe.  
Visions of dust in clouds, of cinders,  
rocks, dirt, and vegetation falling in  
showers—a vision to surpass that of  
Mont Pelée in eruption—will be con-  
fused by the thought of Theodore Roose-  
velt becoming director of the Panama  
Canal Zone upon his return from Africa.  
The idea will appeal to many who, be-  
lieving in his mighty hunter's ability to  
make the dirt fly, would consider the  
canal as good as finished if once he took  
the job.

But it is to be feared that such an-  
ticipations have little chance of being  
realized. One of the latest utterances  
that has come to us from the jungle  
sanctuaries of wildest Africa is an ex-  
pression of the deepest aversion for ev-  
erything of a sentimental turn. And  
fear the idea of Theodore Roosevelt as  
director of the Panama Canal is almost  
too sentimental to escape this taboo.

Moreover, things will be altogether too  
interesting to him at home. It is diffi-  
cult to conceive of his electing to re-  
sist the most strenuous chapter of his  
career, which, at his beck, awaits him  
on his return.

The directorship of the Panama Canal  
Zone would be a